

Allowed claims: 1-53.

Examiner's Amendment/Reasons for Allowance

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Steven Jensen on February 29, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. Claim 1, line 9, after the first occurrence of the word "source" insert -- that differs from said pupil-illuminating light source--;
2. Claim 34, line 6, after "light beam" insert --differing from said pupil-illuminating light beam--.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art either alone or in combination disclose or teach of the claimed combination of limitations to warrant a rejection under 35 USC 102 or 103. Specifically, with reference to independent claim 1, none of the prior art either alone or in combination disclose or teach of the claimed system for tracking the eye of a user specifically including, as the distinguishing feature(s) in combination with the other limitations, the at least one reference light source differing from the pupil-illuminating light source, and each pupil-

illuminating light beam having at least a portion being directed at the pupil of the eye, the portion being aligned with the optical axis of the image detector and at least partially illuminating the pupil of the eye. Specifically, with reference to independent claim 34, none of the prior art either alone or in combination disclose or teach of the claimed method for tracking the eye of a user specifically including, as the distinguishing feature(s) in combination with the other limitations, the emitting at least one reference light beam differing from the pupil-illuminating light beam, and each pupil-illuminating light beam having at least a portion being directed at the pupil of the eye, the portion being aligned with the optical axis of an image detector and at least partially illuminating the pupil of the eye. Specifically, with reference to independent claim 52, none of the prior art either alone or in combination disclose or teach of the claimed system for directing a weapon toward a target specifically including, as the distinguishing feature(s) in combination with the other limitations, the claimed eye tracker as part of a system that further includes a head position tracker and a vehicle position and orientation tracker, the processor directs a weapon toward the target according to the line of sight, the position of the head, and according to the position and orientation of the vehicle.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jordan M. Schwartz whose telephone number is (571)

272-2337. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Mack can be reached on (571) 272-2333. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jordan M. Schwartz
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2873
March 6, 2008

/Jordan M. Schwartz/
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